

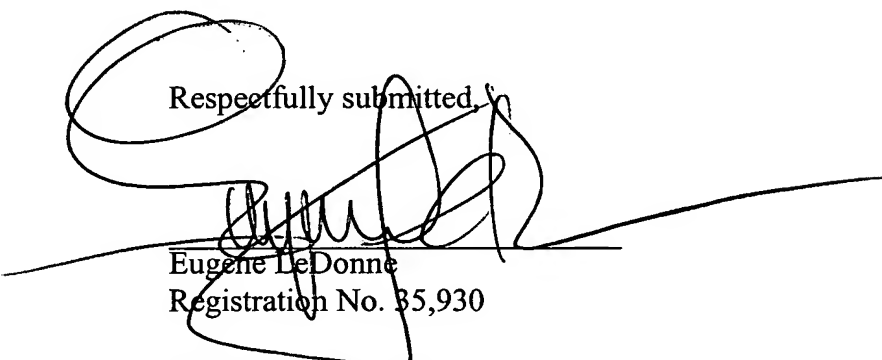
REMARKS

Applicant has elected Group I, claims 1-7, with traverse. The restriction requirement is hereby traversed.

A common feature of the present invention according to both device claim 1 and method claim 7 relates to the particular amount of stress received by an actuator of an ink-jet printhead to reduce the capacitance of electrodes in the actuator and to reduce the driving voltage of the actuator. Accordingly, the subject matter of the method claims and device claims are sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of either group of claims would necessarily encompass a search for the other group of claims. Thus, Applicant submits that all claims can be searched and examined without any serious burden to the Examiner. Thus, Applicant submits that it would be more efficient to examine this application in one application.

Based upon the above remarks, Applicant respectfully requests consideration of this application and its earlier allowance. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorney would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact him at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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